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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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When are you guys going to grow some backbone and put Microsoft in its place?????

They're making a mockery out of the justice system. We all know they broke the law re monopolistic practices, and they're now reaping the benefits of Windows' dominance in just about every field of computer tech.

The latest proposed settlement was an absolute joke. Not only was it paltry (given that the company's illegal practices have made it richer than Midas) but they have the gaul to propose giving away a bunch of hardware/software to schools, so they look like heroes, and further undermine the position of a rare competitor (Apple).

If anything **\*\*close\*\*** to this settlement is ever accepted by the government, **\*\*you will all be laughing stalks in the eyes of history\*\***. You'll make Neville Chamberlain look like a tough guy. If you had any guts, you'd realize that Microsoft needs to be **BROKEN UP** or **SERIOUSLY CURTAILED** in its current businesses, to make up for all that it gained by breaking the rules years ago. They are now absolutely dominant in operating systems, application software, enterprise/networking (what ever happened to Novell?). They're threatening to dominate handheld operating systems (seriously threatening Palm, due to synergies with Windows), consumer online services (threatening AOL, due to synergies with their OS and apps), and video games (seriously challenging Sony and Nintendo, and benefiting from their brand name, and the fact a lot of Windows technology has been leveraged into the Xbox). Most of what they do these days leverages off of technologies and business dominance they already have, and so they'll keep getting bigger and crushing more companies.

Please do something. Make the country believe that you're not just some mild-mannered caretaker, trying not to rock the boat. What good are you if you can't perform when push comes to shove??

-Helmut Kobler